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7/24/53

Chief, General Services Office

Chief of Logistics

Proposed Building for CIA Records Center

REFERENCE: Confidential memorandum of Chief, General Services,
same subject, dated 10 July 1953

1. Attached estimate, prepared by Chief, Construction Engineering Branch, is forwarded in response to request contained in reference memorandum, and in general accordance with requirements as outlined in said memorandum, using as a prototype the Hanford Records Service Center of the Atomic Energy Commission. In arriving at the estimate it was necessary, however, to consider certain cost differentials related to building dimensions, site conditions, mechanical equipment, construction cost indices, etc., all as set forth in the attachment.

2. With respect to site conditions, it should be noted that the proposed location lends itself poorly to construction of a building of the proportions outlined in reference memorandum, the steepness of the terrain resulting in the need for extensive excavation and fill work, raising and retaining adjacent grades and waterproofing of below grade walls. From a construction and mechanical maintenance point of view a building of several levels served by an elevator would be considerably more economical in the said location. In this connection, it should also be noted that no allowance is made in this basic estimate for rock excavation. Should an investigation of sub-soil conditions reveal the presence of rock in any considerable quantity, the recommendation of this Office would be either to build elsewhere or to limit the amount of rock excavation by decreasing plan dimensions and designing the building on three or more levels, placing the trucking entrance on one of the upper levels. It is recommended that any expendability beyond the 25,000 square foot area be provided for by increasing the height of the building rather than the plan dimensions.

3. Another respect in which the basic cost estimate has been increased over that of the Hanford Records Center is for provision of year 'round temperature control at 70° throughout the building. This Office recommends that consideration be given to allowing somewhat lower winter and higher summer temperatures in the storage area of the building. Materials sensitive to temperature changes could then be provided for in a limited area.

Chief, General Services

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4. With respect to the storage capacity of the building, it is understood that a ratio of two cubic feet of records to each square foot of storage area has been used by your Office in computing its space requirement. Technical personnel of this Office feel that in designing the building around the specific requirements of a records service center and adopting certain space saving devices, a better ratio can be achieved, making it possible either to provide a greater capacity in the building as proposed or reducing the dimensions of the building as based upon estimated capacity requirements.

5. Should it be determined that further site investigations are desired, it is recommended that a request be made for funds in the amount of \$500.00 for the purpose of obtaining survey and test boring data.

6. This Office is currently studying space layouts for discussion with the competent authorities of your Office, and holds itself available for further assistance in meeting your requirements.

JAMES H. BARRICK

Attachment

RE/CLM/jm (24 July 1953)

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